

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

APPLICANT:	T. Nomura et al.	CONF. NO.:	2625
U.S. SERIAL NO.:	10/530,122	EXAMINER:	M. Rahman
FILED:	February 23, 2010	GROUP:	2438
FOR:	IMAGE PROCESSING DEVICE AND IMAGE PROCESSING SYSTEM		

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

Applicants are in receipt of the Office Action dated November 22, 2010 of the above-referenced application. Applicants respond to the Office Action as follows.

Claims 1-6 are pending in the application.

Claims 1-6 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Application Publication US 2003/0115326 to Verma et al. ("Verma") in view of U.S. Patent 7,110,541 to Lunt et al. ("Lunt"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

In the "Response to Arguments" section on page 2 of the Office Action of 11/22/2010, it was alleged:

The reference of Verma teaches access control to the data processing means based on different permission levels, which implies that data processing means must have different security levels otherwise these permission levels will be of no use in the processing of inputted image data.